



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Monday
15 August 1994

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Burundi

Rwandans Flee Into Burundi, Report Killings

AB1408171094 Paris AFP in English 1419 GMT
14 Aug 94

[Report by Bernard Degioanni]

[Text] NGOZI, Burundi, Aug 14 (AFP)—Some 2,000 Rwandan refugees, mostly Hutus, have begun to arrive in Burundi every day, fleeing feared violence in Rwanda, and at least 200 have been killed since arriving, aid officials said Sunday [14 August].

Refugees in three camps set up in the Ngozi, Kirundo and Muyinga Provinces said soldiers of the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF], which seized control of most of Rwanda in July, had followed them over the border from Rwanda and extorted money and possessions from them. The refugees, hoping to gain shelter from Burundi's Hutu majority population, also blamed the RPF for killings committed in Burundi.

The exodus, paralleling those elsewhere in Rwanda, followed reports that the French had decided to pull their troops out of the southwest area of Rwanda which borders Burundi and where the Hutus had gone for protection from the RPF. There has been no evidence to date of widescale atrocities committed by the RPF but isolated reports of attacks have continued.

The Hutus, who all appear to believe the reports, poured along three roads, heading for the camps set up in Ngozi, Kirundo and Muyinga provinces. "Three weeks ago, 47 Hutus, including women and children, were rounded up at the Mparamirundi transit camp, taken into a church and killed," a spokesman for the medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres said here Sunday. "The killers were not identified," he added.

At around the same time, 50 Rwandans, all Hutus "were killed on the road close to the Kabore transit camp, about a dozen kilometers (eight miles) from Rwanda," a spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) here said. "There also, the killers, dressed in soldiers' uniforms, were not identified," he added. In a further incident on 11 May, a hundred Rwandan refugees were killed by armed men at Kiri in Kirundo Province, close to the Rukuramigabo camp, he went on. Asked about the claims that the RPF had carried out the killings, the spokesman said it "cannot be ruled out."

"The accounts all tell the same story. The fear is obvious in the people who have fled. You see how desperate they are to get a lift on trucks taking them away from the border," he said. "The most likely thing at the moment is that they are revenge attacks by uncontrolled elements in the RPF," he added, noting the "considerable number of drinking sessions and parties held on the other side of the border to celebrate the RPF's victory."

Paul Kagame, the Rwandan vice-president and minister of defence, has himself denied that his troops have been extorting anything from the population since the RPF won power in July. "There are possibly a few isolated cases which should not be generalised over," he said last week in Kigali. That assurance has not comforted the refugees.

To get round the problem, the aid agencies are transferring people into the interior of the country, with some 9,000 people a day expected to go next week. "Our problem is the lack of space. All the camps are full," the UNHCR official said here. "The camp at Magara, which has 53,000 refugees, has become Burundi's second largest town."

In total, there are an estimated 263,500 Rwandan refugees in Burundi, mostly Hutus. Earlier in the year, when the Tutsis were being massacred in Rwanda some 80,000 fled into Burundi but most of those have since returned, leaving just an estimated 1,000 in the country. Hutu refugees started arriving in Burundi immediately after the RPF took control of Kigali and the major southern town of Butare in early July. "They initially remained in Rwanda, camped along the border, then passed over into Burundian transit camps. As reports grew of harassment by the RPF, they fled further into the country," the UNHCR said.

Opposition Leader Mukasi on Uprona's Peace Objectives

LD1308171994 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 13 Aug 94

[Text] Zaire is not the only country to which Rwandan refugees are fleeing; some are also entering Burundi. The World Food Program claims that 2,000 Rwandans have been entering Burundi every day since Thursday [11 August].

Meanwhile, the Burundian interim president expressed his worries today concerning the presence of Rwandan militiamen of the former Rwandan Army on Burundi's eastern border. This situation is making Burundi's political life, already unstable, even more complicated. However, opposition and government today agreed to resume talks on the appointment of the president of the republic.

Charles Mukasi, leader of the main opposition party, Uprona [Party of National Unity and Progress], outlined the objectives of his party in an interview with Jean Helene.

[Begin recording] [Mukasi] Our objective is to set up a program in favor of peace today. This kind of program does not exist now. An executive power supporting peace must be set up; this executive power does not exist today.

[Helene] What you mean is: This executive power exists, but it does not support peace?

[Mukasi] Yes, it can be proved if one looks at what is really happening in reality. [sentence as heard]

[Helene] A climate of insecurity for which you are blaming the government?

[Mukasi] At least in the way things are being run. Insecurity can always surface under any regime. It must be said that this regime is widely to be blamed for this state of affairs. It is obvious when one looks at events, but what is important is to decide, to proclaim a political will in favor of peace. The whole nation should hear this message. People in the remotest areas of the countryside should feel that there is a will to bring back peace in the country. This is what is missing. We will naturally choose the people favoring this policy of peace. These are our objectives. [end recording]

One Dead, 7 Wounded in Grenade Attack on Bus

*AB1308201594 Paris AFP in English 1950 GMT
13 Aug 94*

[Excerpt] Bujumbura, 13 Aug (AFP)—One person was killed and seven wounded in the Burundian capital Bujumbura Saturday [13 August] in a grenade attack on a public bus, police said. Witnesses said the grenade was thrown at the bus while it was driving in the city centre. Police gave no details of the attack and there have been no arrests.

On Thursday, a grenade was thrown into the capital's central market, wounding seven, just when the city appeared to be returning to normal after student clashes earlier this month which led to at least 17 deaths.

On Friday, the president warned that the presence of former Rwandan Army troops and Hutu militia on his country's border could exacerbate tensions in Burundi, which fears a Rwanda-style ethnic bloodbath. Burundi has the same ethnic mix of Hutus and Tutsis as neighbouring Rwanda where civil war and ethnic slaughter has led to more than 500,000 deaths. Burundian interim President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, a Hutu, has warned that the country was "on the edge of the abyss." [passage omitted]

UNHCR Worker Killed, 5 Burundians Injured in Attack

*AB1408131094 Paris AFP in English 0937 GMT
14 Aug 94*

[Text] Bujumbura, 14 Aug (AFP)—A Nicaraguan working for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] was killed overnight in Kirundo, northern Burundi, by gunmen who then fled, the UNHCR reported Sunday [14 August]. Five Burundians were injured in the same attack, one of them critically, the UNHCR said. None of the Burundians worked for the UNHCR or any other aid organisation.

The dead man, who was not named, was the first aid worker to be assassinated in Burundi, the UNHCR said. He was attacked by an unspecified number of gunmen as he was getting out of his vehicle with the five Burundians at his home.

The UNHCR and other humanitarian organisations have been operating out of Kirundo to cope with the influx of 50,000 refugees from the civil war in Rwanda currently sheltering in three camps in the region. The UNHCR's delegate to Burundi, Shelly Peterman, went to Kirundo on Sunday to organise for the dead man to be flown home and for the wounded Burundians to be evacuated.

Rwanda

Troops Pull Out; 'Exodus' From French Zone Begins

*AB1208220394 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 12 Aug 94*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The French withdrawal from western Rwanda is well under way. It is supposed to be completed by the 21st of August, and to be replaced by UN forces by the end of September. From 2,500 French troops, it is now down to a few hundred. The zone has had some 2 million people, terrified that they will be the victims of reprisals by the Tutsi-dominated RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] government when the French leave, and there have been fears of a fresh exodus into neighboring Zaire. Our correspondent, Nancy Hillson, is at Kibuye in the French zone. On the satellite link, Dan Isaacs asked her if the exodus had begun.

[Begin recording] [Hillson] Yes, it seems it has. Over the past few days, I have seen hundreds of people, carrying their belongings on their heads, moving down from the hills and going along the road towards Cyangugu, which is the border town leading into Zaire, and according to the French forces here—who are trying to monitor the movements—and the UN forces as well, they think that the movement is picking up and more and more people are beginning to leave.

[Isaacs] Is there any idea how many Rwandans have now crossed the border into Zaire?

[Hillson] I don't know that because I am in Kibuye, which is within the zone, north down on the border. But the French were talking yesterday of 5,000 or more people leaving from this zone alone. Now, there is also the area around Gikongoro to the east and there is a movement of people from there. So I think we are beginning to talk about tens of thousands of people heading toward the border.

[Isaacs] What attempts are being made within the French zone to try and persuade Rwandans to stay there and not go into Zaire?

[Hillson] In this area, around Kibuye, the French commander, Colonel Patrick Satre, has been holding meetings in Kibuye town and in villages. People come to the meetings, both local people and displaced people who have moved into the zone, and what the colonel has been

trying to tell people to do is to stay. He says that the reports which people are getting of killings committed by forces of the RPF, he says that some of those reports are true but he believes this is the work of a few indisciplined soldiers, not a policy to try and kill Hutus, and he said at a meeting I went to this morning in a village called Rubengera that he thought far more murders were being committed in Bukavu by soldiers of the ousted Rwandan Government and their militia and also by Zairian troops.

So he is saying that although there is also lawlessness in this area—there is a lot of looting going on, you see a lot of people going around carrying all these looted goods; so, despite that and despite these reports of killings by some RPF soldiers—he still believes that people are safer and better off to remain here than to go to Zaire.

[Isaacs] Did his word, did the French officer's word have any comfort? Did it convince any of the Rwandans listening?

[Hillson] I think some people are having very serious thoughts about whether they want to go to Zaire. I talked to several people after that meeting and after the meeting yesterday, and some of these people are aware of the situation in Zaire, also the fact that there is very little medical care, or shelter, or food, or water, and so they are listening to the French and some people have not decided whether they want to go or not. Another concern is that people here do feel that the French had protected them well, and the French who will be replaced are already being replaced by UN soldiers. Now, many people say that they don't trust the UN in the way that trusted the French. They feel that the UN was biased toward the RPF, that is their opinion, but they are going to wait and see how things turn out before they make a decision. [end recording]

UN Official Likens Goma to Gaza, Foresees Future Problems

AB1208171094 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 12 Aug 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The United Nations seems on the point of despairing in its efforts to persuade the million Rwandan refugees around the town of Goma in eastern Zaire to pack up and go home. Most of them are Hutus and they have swallowed claims that the Tutsis and the Tutsi-dominated RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] government back home will slaughter them if they set foot across the border. That means Goma could be hosting the refugees for years to come, and Panos Moutzis, the UNHCR representative, has compared the situation to the Gaza Strip where hundreds of thousands of refugees are parked, apparently for the foreseeable future. In Goma, Juliet Bremner asked Panos Moutzis what the similarities were with the Gaza Strip.

[Begin recording] [Moutzis] Refugees are more and more determined everyday to remain in Goma, and it is very clear that the elders among the refugees do not want to go back and what the elders are doing is keeping the vast majority together with them by spreading rumors and fears and intimidating refugees everyday that it is not safe to go back, and are keeping them here together with them. We are afraid that it might take an entire generation, until there is a little bit of forgiveness, until there is a new generation that comes up which is more tolerant towards each other, which will make them ready to accept to live together with other tribes and go back.

[Bremner] Now, people like yourself and myself have seen these camps. I think it is inconceivable that anybody would choose to stay there rather going back to their homes in Rwanda. Can you try and explain just how deep the fear is that is persuading them to stay here?

[Moutzis] What we.... [pauses] You see, the elders' problem is that they would rather die of cholera, they would rather die of dysentery, they would rather stay and starve to death than go back home. The announcement read by the Security Council that there would war tribunals in Rwanda made people even more scared than before, made the elders and people who were involved in crime be more determined not to go back and to hold everybody else back with them here.

[Bremner] What happens when the world gets sort of emotional fatigue and the aid stops coming in here? Are they going to be there for the next generation? How will they survive?

[Moutzis] It is very difficult to tell, and this is the message we are passing to them that right now the world's attention is in Goma. Goma is the biggest disaster and humanitarian emergency in the world. It might continue for three months, for six months, but it clearly will not continue for the next five, 10, 15 years. What will happen is that the less funds we get, the less assistance the refugees would get, and only with time, maybe, they would start changing their minds.

[Bremner] And what about the position of the Zairian Government? They can't be terribly pleased to have a million refugees suddenly thrown upon them.

[Moutzis] Now, the Zairian Government made it clear that they accept the refugees to come in on a temporary basis, and they have also appealed to the international community to help them help the refugees; but I don't think that even the Zairian Government would be able to absorb or keep the people for too long a time. Right now there is a very positive reaction: Everybody is welcome, everybody is assisted, but I am not sure that this reaction would continue for a very long time.

[Bremner] Do you think you do see mounting tension between the local community and the refugees?

[Moutzis] There is an increasing, mounting tension. Right now, it is not a major problem; but we do get

incidents where individuals come and tell us: Why are you recruiting these refugees to do this job while I could do this job. I have lived here all my life. I have priority to (?the job.) Why are the refugees coming in and buying all the food from the town, increasing the prices? There have been reports that the reason why Goma doesn't have any water is because of the refugees and not because of any special water pumping system. So there is a lot of animosity building up and hatred and xenophobia, basically between the refugees and the local people. It is not a problem yet, but it could become a major problem in the coming months. [end recording]

Kagame Appoints Rwandan Patriotic Army Leaders

*EA1208191294 Nairobi KNA in English 1212 GMT
12 Aug 94*

[Excerpt] Kampala, 12 Aug (KNA/PANA)—The Rwandan vice president and minister of defence, Major General Paul Kagame, has appointed an eight-man team to lead the Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA), reports PANA. The officers are all former members of Uganda's National Resistance Army (NRA). The new appointments were announced to the RPA top ranks in Rwanda on Tuesday [9 August].

The RPA, the military wing of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) took over power in Kigali mid-July after about four years of armed struggle. The front immediately announced a national government to lead Rwanda.

Kagame's team includes: Colonel Kaka appointed chief of staff, Col. Kayumba Nyamwasa is the RPF chief of Gendarmerie, while Lieutenant Col. Rwigamba is the chief of cabinet in the Defense Ministry. Kagame also appointed five other officers as brigade commanders. They are Col. Dodo, Col. Bagire, Col. Ngoga, Lt. Col. Bingira and Lt. Col. Nzaramba. [names as received] [passage omitted]

Zaire

Premier Urges Prevention of Mass Rwandan Refugee Exodus

*AB1408131594 Paris AFP in English 1016 GMT
14 Aug 94*

[Text] Kinshasa, 14 Aug (AFP)—Zairian Prime Minister Kengo Wa Dondo has made an impassioned appeal to the international community and the authorities in Kigali to prevent another mass exodus of Rwandan

refugees into Zaire. "The authorities in Kigali must make public statements to convince the population to stay where it is and (to encourage) the refugees to return home," he told AFP in an interview at the weekend.

He made his appeal as international aid agencies reported that Rwandans from the French "safe zone" were heading towards the Zairian border town of Bukavu ahead of the planned pullout of French troops on 22 August. "I do not know if the current Rwandan Government has the means to implement its policies. If not, we could give them a hand, help them. They could let us know," he said. "I think the priority is to persuade, to convince, to help the refugees return to their country, and for that the authorities in Kigali will have to convince the refugees to go home by making public declarations."

He said the international community should be aware that if there were insufficient preparations in the southern humanitarian zone before the French pullout, "there is a danger that there will be a flood of refugees into Bukavu which we will be unable to cope with." But he ruled out the idea of using force to close the border with Rwanda: "We cannot post soldiers there and give them orders to open fire on those who want to go through." But he stressed that the arrival of more refugees on Zairian soil would exacerbate existing tensions with the indigenous populations, many of whom live in equally miserable conditions.

Zaire's "good neighbourliness" in welcoming hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees in the Goma and Bukavu regions had cost the country dear, he said. "The environment and eco-system of these rich, tourist regions, has been turned on its head. What remains of these regions today?" "We have huge problems, the economic fabric of the country has been ruined by looting, the coffers have been bled dry, what more can we do for our neighbours? We need to put our own house in order."

Rwandan Refugees Continue To Cross Into Zaire

*EA1308135094 Bukavu Voix du Zaire in French 0430
GMT 13 Aug 94*

[Text] Thousands of Rwandan refugees continue to cross into Zaire in anticipation of the withdrawal of French troops from southwestern Rwanda. Meanwhile, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda has called on the international community to arrest Rwandans suspected of war crimes who are currently in the refugee camps of neighboring countries.

Eritrea

Eritrean, Sudanese Ministers End Talks, Accord Signed

EA1308202094 Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 13 Aug 94

[Text] Talks between the Eritrean and Sudanese foreign ministers ended yesterday. After extensive discussions based on the 1994 agreement, a joint communique on security, repatriation of refugees, opening of consulates, and modes of cooperation was issued. Each side also agreed not to intervene in the internal affairs of the other, and to ban the activities of terrorists in their territories.

On the basis of the agreement reached and in order to facilitate the effective performance of the joint security committee, the two sides agreed to fully implement the agreement reached and to enhance their efforts to dislodge terrorists from their respective territories.

On the issue of refugees, the two sides agreed to start repatriation with effect from September, as agreed earlier. They also agreed that the relevant authorities from both sides, particularly the interior ministries, will start implementing the agreement.

The agreement was signed at Selam Hotel, Asmara, yesterday by Eritrean Foreign Minister Petros Solomon and by Sudanese Foreign Minister Husayn Abu-Salih.

Kenya

New Nairobi Mayor Elected

EA1308141594 Nairobi KBC Television Network in English 1800 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Text] Councillor John Mwangi King'ori was this evening elected as mayor of Nairobi. King'ori won the hotly contested seat by beating his sole rival Councillor S.M. Maina by 47 votes to 30. One vote was spoiled. It was sweet victory for King'ori, the leader of the so-called Club 45, whose candidature was bitterly opposed for almost four hours by his opponents, who claimed that he could not contest due to a technicality.

Councillor Dickson Waweru raised the matter with the town clerk, seeking advice on whether a person who had been convicted on a criminal offense could stand for election. The town clerk ruled that according to the laws of the land such a person was disqualified but the supporters of Councillor King'ori insisted that elections must proceed.

FORD-Asili Secretary To Expel Asians If Voted Into Power

EA1408191594 Nairobi KTN Television Network in English 1600 GMT 14 Aug 94

[Text] The FORD [Forum for the Restoration of Democracy]-Asili secretary general, Martin Shikuku, today

vowed he would take Asians out of the country for allegedly wrecking the economy if he assumed power. Shikuku charged that the Asian community was behind the economic woes facing the common man at the moment, as they had siphoned millions of shillings out of the country leaving the ordinary mwananchi [citizen] to suffer. He was addressing a poorly attended political meeting in Meru Town. He said other parliamentarians did not support his views on the issue as they had become beggars to the Asians. The outspoken member of parliament for Butere said all opposition parties would nominate their presidential candidates for the 1997 elections. Those selected would then go across the country campaigning and wananchi [citizens] would choose one of them to face the KANU [Kenya African National Union] candidate.

Government Imposes Ban on Maize, Wheat Imports

EA1308141094 Nairobi KBC Television Network in English 1800 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Excerpt] The government today imposed a six-month ban on the importation of maize and wheat. Agriculture, livestock development, and marketing minister Simeon Nyachae, while making the announcement, said only maize and wheat brought into the country for relief and free distribution will be accepted.

He said the measures were prompted by the anticipated bumper harvest and massive importation of the two commodities which had made it difficult for local farmers to market the produce. Mr. Nyachae was addressing the press at the ministry's headquarters. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Foreign Minister Begins Talks in Eritrea

EA1108142094 Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] Asmara, Eritrea, 11 August (SUNA)—The Sudanese-Eritrean talks, which would review bilateral relations and issues of borders and refugees between the two countries started sessions Wednesday [10 August].

The Eritrean foreign minister, who inaugurates the sessions, expressed hope that the talks would further strengthen the ties between the two countries.

Foreign Minister Dr. Husayn Sulayman Abu-Salih, who arrived here Wednesday morning, affirmed upon arrival that relations between the two countries are deep-rooted, adding that the purpose of the visit is to push forward relations and to establish cooperation and other institutions for enhancing cooperation between the two countries.

Tanzania

Mwinyi Extends Invitations to Rwanda, Burundi Summit

EA1208192094 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania Network in Swahili 1700 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Excerpt] President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has sent out invitations for a meeting of neighboring countries to discuss issues affecting the countries neighboring Rwanda and Burundi. The meeting will be held in Arusha next Tuesday [16 August].

A statement from State House in Dar es Salaam said that the countries invited to attend the meeting are: Kenya, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia, Rwanda, and Burundi. The meeting is expected to discuss ways of strengthening security and stability in Rwanda and Burundi, as well as the question of refugees in neighboring countries [passage omitted]

Mwinyi in Talks With Acting Burundi President

EA1508102294 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania Network in Swahili 0700 GMT 15 Aug 94

[Text] President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has hailed the acting leadership in Burundi for conducting negotiations between the political parties and various groups, which is aimed at reaching a preliminary agreement on ways of forming a national unity government.

Speaking to the acting president of Burundi, Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, in Arusha last night, President Mwinyi said a firm government would help bring stability to Burundi, for which Tanzania prays. President Ntibantunganya told President Mwinyi of the various steps the acting government has taken in preparation for electing a president and a government, which would bring together all parties and groups in Burundi in order to build love and trust.

The acting Burundi president, who is in Arusha to attend a meeting of neighboring countries, which will discuss the situation in Rwanda and Burundi tomorrow, hailed the Government of Tanzania for being a faithful neighbor to those countries.

Uganda

Deputy Finance Minister Dies

EA1308205194 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 0400 GMT 13 Aug 94

[Excerpt] Honorable Haji Moses Kigongo, vice chairman of [the] NRM [National Resistance Movement]-NRC [National Resistance Council], and Honorable Jaberu Bidandi Ssali, minister of local government, announce with deep sorrow the death of their Brother Honorable Abbey Kafumbe Mukasa, deputy minister of finance, which occurred this morning, Saturday, at Mulago Hospital [in Kampala]. The body of the Hon. Kafumbe Mukasa is being transported to his home at Bule in Butambala today, where he will be buried tomorrow, Sunday, 14 August 1994, at 12 noon. [passage omitted]

Mandela Cancels Tanzania Trip for Health Reasons

MB1208152894 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1359 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Text] Cape Town August 12 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela has cancelled a scheduled visit to Tanzania on Monday [15 August] citing health reasons and the pressure of work. His office said in a statement that this had been decided on his doctor's advice, and in order to allow his eye to recover fully after a recent cataract operation.

President Mandela was to have attended a ceremony marking the dissolution of the Organisation of African Unity's liberation committee in Tanzania on Monday.

"The decision was also taken in view of the hectic schedule that is awaiting the president during the course of next week, the anniversary of his 100 days in office and the president's budget debate," the statement said.

Foreign Minister Mr Alfred Nzo would attend the ceremony on behalf of the president.

De Klerk: No Tensions in National Unity Government

MB1308165194 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0600 GMT 13 Aug 94

[Text] Deputy President F.W. De Klerk has dispelled any speculation over tensions in the government of national unity. He said in an interview with the REUTERS News Agency that he was confident that good relations had been established in the first 100 days of the government of national unity. Some bumps had however occurred with a potential for tension over how the government redressed apartheid imbalances, particularly its application of affirmative action. He said visible progress could be made nonetheless through the cooperation that had been established.

South African Press Review for 12 Aug

MB1208124894

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Probe Into KwaZulu Police—The decision by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi to order a comprehensive investigation into allegations of hit squads in the KwaZulu Police, KZP, is welcomed by Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 12 August in a page 12 editorial. "No fewer than five official reports—two by Judge Richard Goldstone and three by a special TEC [Transitional Executive Council] team—have expressed grave concern at the suspected existence of assassins within the KZP and the apparent connivance by senior KZP officers at their nefarious activities." The inquiry, to consist of senior police and legal experts "must cut to the bone." Minister Mufamadi should also "invite an

international expert to assist the team to give it the same status as the investigation into similar allegations against senior officers of the SAP [South African Police]."

BUSINESS DAY

Call for Privatization, Tax Cuts—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 12 August in a page 16 editorial believes that "government is unlikely to be able to finance its reconstruction and development programme (RDP) without stimulating growth by lowering taxes, while tax cuts and the RDP may ultimately depend on privatisation." Privatization would "attract foreign investment and stimulate local economic activity. Apart from defraying debt, its revenues could allow Mandela the tax cuts he sees as essential, and help fund the RDP. Government will find, however, that on taxes and privatisation, words carry little conviction. Only deeds will do."

Government Unable To Recognize Its Limits—Tim Cohen writes in an article on the same page that "looking at government's first few months in office, the broad assessment is pretty phlegmatic." According to Center for Policy Studies Director Steven Friedman, and Cape Town University science Professor Robert Schrire, the "new government's biggest achievement is that nothing major has gone wrong so far. Considering what could have happened, that is a monumental achievement." However, the government's first 100 days in office "do not provide an adequate basis on which to either criticise or commend it. What they do provide is a platform to review whether the Kempton Park deal is sustainable and what new options have opened up." Cohen writes that "it has become clear that the government of national unity concept is showing distinct strain." Also, the "broad ANC constituency is proving fractious. Public disagreements between the SACP [South African Communist Party], the ANC and Cosatu [Congress of South African Trade Unions], especially over strikes, have increased tensions within the ruling bloc. The ANC parliamentary caucus has demanded the right to be consulted and is showing signs of restiveness." Although this has resulted in the government operating in "a less secret way," "there is no disguising the future uncertainties this brings, with the lack of clarity over which ANC alliance faction will become dominant." In these first 100 days the government has shown that "it cares about the welfare of those it governs," however, "its greatest weakness, though, is its inability to recognise the limits on what government can achieve."

WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN

Mandela Must 'Shake Up' Cabinet Ministers—Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English for 12-18 August in its page 28 editorial judges the government's first 100 days in office by the progress made in the RDP, saying "one must praise some departments for progress and be harsh on others for the decided lack of it." The "delays in in getting operative provincial

and local authorities in place is slowing down the national effort" because the government of national unity, GNU, is "slouching." "This is because Mandela, to his credit, has placed the highest premium on unity and reconciliation, almost to the exclusion of the need to shake up the civil service and slap the police and defence force into shape." But now "Mandela will have to move from a gentle and cautious coaxing of his team to a more vigorous stimulation of the state machinery. He will have to be prepared to shake up, and replace, sluggish cabinet ministers; and he will have to confront obstructive elements of the civil service."

NEW NATION

Government Must Consult—A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *NEW NATION* in English on 12 August, refers to the "democrats in the government of national unity", saying "there are disturbing signs emerging which suggest that many of those democrats are succumbing to the temptation to be seen to be delivering on their promises, even if it means racing ahead of those who voted them into power, without the necessary consultation." If "left unattended, the ANC in government will end up alienating key formations in civil society." The ANC "will have to ensure that, even though it is now in government, the accessibility to its leaders that the democratic constituency enjoyed in the pre-election period, continues uninterrupted."

BEELD

Two Faces of Right Wing Emerging—"Two faces of right-wing Afrikanerdom were on view in the past few days," writes columnist Willie Kuhn in his "Political Beeld" column in Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 5 August on page 8. On the one hand there was "Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg who at the [Orange] Free State congress of the Conservative Party [CP] showed that he lacks the ability to lead his grouping out of the desert." "By contemptuously rejecting the symbols of the new state" he showed that the CP right wing "wants to raise the drawbridge" and seek "the safety of a fool's paradise." On the other hand there was General Constand Viljoen who "this week delivered two sparkling speeches in Parliament. He was sharply critical of the ANC," but "he also came up with concrete proposals and a positive

attitude" "through his suggestions for reducing the size of the defense force and the implementation of the RDP." Kuhn adds: "What a pity that there are not more such South Africans who can distinguish between national and party interests." "Gen. Viljoen wants to make a job of it. Dr. Hartzenberg wants to coax his people into sterile protest." "He wants to wash his hands and give notice that he is not responsible for the here and now. He wants to wish away the present South Africa. Can there still be any doubt what is in the best interests of the Afrikaner?"

Concrete Steps Needed on Police Murders—Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 8 August states in an editorial on page 6: "The figures on policemen who have been killed this year—67 on the Reef and more than 150 countrywide—are the strongest argument for more concrete steps to be taken to stem the murder campaign against them. Apart from the tragedy and human suffering, these figures are symptomatic of the crumbling of respect for law and order, and the growing lawlessness which is spreading like a cancer through all communities. If it is not stopped, total anarchy will be the result."

Government Needs Budget Priorities—Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 10 August says in a page 10 editorial: "Just over a week ago we were told that the integration of the various armed force elements into the South African National Defense Force [SANDF] would cost about 4.1 billion rands. The day before yesterday SANDF Chief General Georg Meiring told the select committee on defense in Parliament that it will cost 7 billion." "Do people realize just how much money that is, which has to be found somehow, probably through another transitional levy?" "An aggravating factor is the fact that the various armies have first to be integrated and their members trained—and once the process is over, the numbers have to be cut. In other words, train them to fight and then make them redundant. South Africa sometimes seems like a theater of the absurd, but this takes the cake. What a waste of money, and what dangers can be created with such trained but jobless people. It is time," says *BEELD*, "that the government determines policy and budgetary priorities. The taxpayer must feel that his sacrifice is worthwhile, or else a silent revolution will shake the government in the end."

Angola

Negotiators in Lusaka Formalize Agreement on Security

MB1508135794 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 15 Aug 94

[Report from correspondent Alves Antonio in Lusaka]

[Text] Angolan peace talks between government and National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] delegations resumed in the Zambian capital this morning with the holding of a plenary session. The issue of security for senior officials of Jonas Savimbi's organization was formalized during the session. Now that this issue has been formalized, the sides will go on to discuss the mandate of the UN Angola Verification Mission, the role of the observers, and the Joint Political and Military Commission. The government and UNITA teams are waiting to hear from the UN special representative, who is to define the issues to be discussed. It is probable that the mediator will soon hand over to the negotiators a document establishing the timetable for this afternoon. Sources close to the talks admit, however, that UNITA may respond to the proposals of the mediator and the government on the participation of that organization in government. The same source says that this situation only regards UNITA. The deadline, which was opportunely set by the UN Security Council on the issue, expired a long ago.

Government, UNITA Agree on Security

MB1308195894 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 13 Aug 94

[Excerpt] This afternoon saw yet another meeting between UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye and the government team to the Lusaka peace talks, but nothing is known about what was discussed. What is known for certain is that the issue of security for senior National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] officials has been overcome and it is now up to the mediator to say what will have to be done over the next few days. Alves Antonio, our correspondent in the Zambian capital, reports:

[Begin Antonio recording] Yet another chapter has been closed in the Lusaka peace talks. The government and UNITA negotiators are now waiting for UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye to define the way ahead and issue them with instructions.

Today, after heated discussions over the course of the week, the government and UNITA finally achieved consensus on issues pertaining to security for senior UNITA officials. The formalization of the agreement should occur at an especially scheduled plenary session on 15 August.

Meanwhile, this afternoon there was a meeting between the government team to the talks and UN Special Representative Blondin Beye. [passage omitted]

UNITA Spokesman Comments

MB1408174594 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 14 Aug 94

[Text] For 10 months the Angolan Government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels have been talking peace in the Zambian capital, Lusaka. The results have been very depressing. Major disagreements remain over the structure of a transitional government and the sharing out of regional power prior to a planned re-run of 1992's presidential elections, but a new threat of further sanctions to be imposed by the United Nations if UNITA fails to soft their position and refuses to sign a final agreement by the end of this month may help to concentrate the minds of UNITA's negotiators. As John Mukela reports from Lusaka, some progress has been made at the talks this weekend:

In the latest round of negotiations UNITA spokesman Jorge Valentim said in Lusaka today that his movement has more or less agreed in principle on some important points related to the security of UNITA leaders, part of the package of guarantees for freedom of speech and assembly. Dr. Valentim told me that discussions on this particular point have yet to be formalized, but that the government delegation has made some firm commitment toward an agreement on the question of security for UNITA leaders. He said that an important consideration related to this question of security was not essentially that of bodyguards for UNITA leaders. According to Dr. Valentim, the likely success of the security question would hinge heavily on the government's willingness to allow the formation in Angola of what he called an open society characterized, he said, by open and progressive ideas, and not by the number of bodyguards.

However, despite the optimism expressed by the UNITA spokesman, agreement over who shall control the province of Huambo is what will finally determine a peace settlement between the two sides. So far, the stalemate over Huambo seems set to continue. Deliberations over Huambo are due to resume tomorrow.

Ministerial Council Approves General Labor Law

MB1308143694 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Excerpt] A new general labor law was approved by the Council of Ministers, which held a special session in Luanda today. The Council of Ministers also approved a number of documents that will regulate the reintegration of newly trained youths into professions. The Council of Ministers also examined teachers' salary conditions. [passage omitted]

UNITA Communique Criticizes U.S. Envoy's Statement

MB1208195794 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Text] The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] did not like the statement made by

U.S. Ambassador to Angola Edmund DeJarnette. The U.S. ambassador blamed President Savimbi for the peace talks dragging on in Lusaka, Zambia. The UNITA leadership met in Huambo and in a press communique described Edmund DeJarnette's statement as a pure act of provocation and added that it would not contribute to the Angolan peace process. The U.S. ambassador stressed the need for Savimbi and his organization to accept the mediators' proposals. He expressed his country's readiness to contribute to the conclusion of the peace talks in Lusaka.

Accord With U.S. Allows MPLA To Buy War Materiel

MB1308142894 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 13 Aug 94

[Text] The Angolan people are certain that Portugal, Brazil, Russia, and Spain have helped to fan the flames of war in Angola, even though those countries are members of the United Nations. Political observers told the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel, Vorgan, that those countries violated the Triple Zero clause of the Bicesse Accord and became the principal suppliers of war materiel to the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party, MPLA-PT.

The political observers also asked the United States, in its capacity as observer in the Angolan peace process, to remain impartial. The sources added, quote, we know that the communist regime led by Eduardo dos Santos and the U.S. Embassy in Luanda signed commercial transaction agreements on 28 June of this year. Those agreements allow the MPLA-PT to buy any type of war materiel from the United States, unquote.

Meanwhile, the sources expressed the hope that such moves would be delayed now that the Lusaka peace talks have entered their final stage.

UNITA's Savimbi Reportedly To Meet Mandela 15 Aug

MB1408155594 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 Aug 94

[Text] The situation in Angola could change over the next few days with Jonas Savimbi's departure for South Africa. A number of international media report that the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] leader has already left Huambo, but it is not known which routes he will use to go to South Africa. He is scheduled to meet President Nelson Mandela tomorrow and the two are expected to discuss UNITA's participation in government and the political future of its leader. The same sources say that UNITA wants the South African pattern to be adopted in Angola. Savimbi is said to be in favor of the introduction of a vice presidency as well as holding presidential elections within 10 years. If the proposal is eventually accepted, this would imply altering the current Constitution, since it does not provide for the post of vice president.

The negotiators are not working in Lusaka, they are resting since it is Sunday. However, they have already reached a consensus on the issue of security for the senior officials of the rebel movement. Alves Antonio reports from Lusaka:

Some members of the diplomatic corps accredited in the Republic of Zambia today told Radio Nacional de Angola that the UN secretary general and the Security Council should be more involved in the Angolan situation to save the Lusaka talks between the government and UNITA, to lessen the suffering of the Angolan people. The sources said it would be disastrous if the peace process underway in the Zambian capital were derailed. The diplomats, who noted that the international community should use as much pressure as possible to halt UNITA's war machinery and call its leader Jonas Savimbi to his senses, also noted the need for UNITA to accept without sophism the proposals of the mediators and the government regarding its participation in government. The sources also believe that the UN Security Council should set 31 August as the deadline for the conclusion of the negotiations.

Meanwhile, the government and UNITA negotiators are preparing to formalize, after reaching a consensus yesterday, in the plenary session scheduled for 15 August the issue of security for senior officials of Jonas Savimbi's organization. A source close to the talks says that the government and UNITA representatives will probably begin discussing the UN Angola Verification Mission mandate soon afterwards. UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye will hand the negotiators the intermediary document which will serve as a basis for the discussions. However, a source close to UNITA says that his organization prefers to first discuss UNITA's participation in governing the country, including provinces and communes. This is yet another problem for the mediator to solve. Beye has been advising the Angolan people to remain calm and patient because peace will be achieved in Angola.

Savimbi, Mandela Meeting Unscheduled

MB1408155794 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 Aug 94

[Text] Dr. Jonas Savimbi, president of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], will meet with South African President Nelson Mandela in the next few days, not tomorrow as reported by some news agencies and radio stations. Dr. Marcos Samondo, UNITA Representative in the United Nations, says that the meeting is being prepared, but a definitive date has not yet been set.

[Begin recording] [Samondo] The meeting will not be held on 15 August.

[Unidentified reporter] When will it be held?

[Samondo] We are still preparing for the meeting, but the date has not yet been set. [words indistinct].

Mozambique

FPLM Command Abolished, Handed Over to New Army

MB1308172794 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 13 Aug 94

[Excerpt] The Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique, FPLM, Command was abolished today and its infrastructure turned over to the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces, FADM. The ceremony was chaired by Lieutenant General Antonio Hama Thai, chief of General Staff of the FPLM troops and deputy national defense minister.

Army Commander Lieutenant General Tobias Dai handed over to the FADM chief of General Staff the FPLM flag and a pistol symbolizing weaponry. [passage omitted]

Further on FPLM Scrapping

MB1308193594 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 13 Aug 94

[Text] The Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique, FPLM, troops are to be formally and generally scrapped in the presence of the FPLM General Staff Officer Corps on 16 August. Today saw the abolition of the FPLM Command, the biggest branch of the government forces.

General Antonio Hama Thai, FPLM chief of General Staff, said the Air Force and the Navy, the other two FPLM branches, are to be disbanded on 15 August.

Meanwhile, the UN Operations in Mozambique, Unomoz, has reported that the new Mozambique Defense Armed Forces, FADM, army has a total of 7,300 men at this stage. There are slightly more than 22,000 soldiers at confinement centers and areas for unconfined troops. Of those, 17,000 are government forces and the other 5,400 belong to Renamo.

Chissano Refuses To Meet Demobilized Soldiers

MB1308131394 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Excerpt] After being informed this evening that the president of the Republic will not receive them, the 60 demobilized soldiers from the Military Household said they will not leave the president's office, where they have

been protesting since this morning. We are here no matter what happens, the demobilized soldiers shouted. The soldiers were told that the answer to their demands will be channeled through the Attorney General's Office and the Mozambican Association of War Demobilized Personnel. The demobilized soldiers, who continue to block road traffic outside the president's office, said that they met with the attorney general yesterday, but he did not give them a satisfactory answer. [passage omitted]

Ministers Council Discusses, Approves Documents

MB1108140294 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] The Council of Ministers held its 17th ordinary session. It discussed the draft law revoking the Law on Compulsory Military Service and the law which gives the necessary authority to the Council of Ministers to institute a taxation system applicable to mining.

The Council of Ministers further discussed and approved the decree setting import and general customs taxes concerning raw material imports used in products intended as exports. It also discussed and approved resolutions pertaining to the ratification of a loan accord between the Mozambican Government and the Arab Development Bank for Africa—that money will be used to finance the planned road between Chibuto and Xai-xai—and the loan accord between our country and the International Development Association to finance the Pande Gas engineering project.

The Council of Ministers also discussed the evolution of the Mozambican peace process.

Zimbabwe

Defense Force To Be Cut to 40,000; No Budget Cuts

MB1208155494 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1500 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Text] The Zimbabwean president, Robert Mugabe, has announced that he will trim the country's defense force to 40,000 personnel, but there will not be any cuts in defense spending. Mr. Mugabe said, at celebrations to mark National Defense Force Day, that rationalizing the force would ensure long-term combat capability and effectiveness. Acknowledging that morale in the force was extremely low, Mr. Mugabe said the government would act immediately to improve the welfare of soldiers.

Guinea-Bissau

Opposition Candidate Challenges Election Results

LD1108171294 Lisbon Radio Renascenca in Portuguese to Europe 1600 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Excerpt] Confusion reigns in Guinea-Bissau. Kumba Iala refuses to accept the result of the presidential elections, which make his rival Nino Vieira the winner.

At a news conference this afternoon, Iala's spokesman Amin Saad alleged that the national electoral commission was pressured by the PAIGC [expansion unknown] to release the figures without taking into account discrepancies that falsified them.

Saad said that figures compiled by the commission of support for Iala make him the winner by a minimal margin. He also said that the electoral commission has not taken irregularities into account, such as the fact that the number of votes cast was higher than the number of registered voters in certain areas.

Saad called for a comparison of the figures arrived at by the national electoral commission with those of the commission of support for Iala. If the latter are determined to be wrong, Iala will concede defeat. Otherwise, the official result will be challenged through the proper channels. [passage omitted]

Demands Recount

LD1208193194 Lisbon RTP Internacional Television in Portuguese 1800 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Text] In Guinea-Bissau, Kumba Iala is most unhappy with the outcome of the presidential election. The opposition candidate has threatened to prevent Nino Vieira's installation in office unless there is a recount of the votes.

The situation is tense and the Portuguese Government has issued a communique urging respect for the outcome of the elections.

Nigeria

Oil Unions Send Low-Level Team To Meet With Junta

AB1108142394 Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Report by Ade Obisesan]

[Text] Lagos, Aug 11 (AFP)—Nigeria's oil and gas workers' unions snubbed the government Thursday [11 August] by deciding to despatch low-level teams for talks about a crippling strike they have launched to press the military junta to relinquish power.

"The delegations the two unions will send to the meeting will not have authority to commit the unions on any

issue," Bola Owodunni, the president of the white-collar Pengassan union told AFP before the talks were due to start at 1400 (1300 GMT).

Pengassan and its sister body, the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG), want the junta to free opposition leader Moshood Abiola, on trial for treason, and install him as head of state.

They have also demanded the release of other political detainees and the lifting of a ban on two independent newspapers, as well as pressing economic demands.

"The decision to send a low-level delegation is tactical," Owodunni said by telephone after a meeting between the two unions. "For now, we believe that the government is not serious yet on our demands."

The unions appeared to be playing for time as they waited to know whether the government will drop treason charges against Abiola when his trial resumes Tuesday before a federal high court in the capital Abuja.

The oil strike, which began on 4 July, and more recent industrial action by members of the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) in Lagos and other cities mainly in the southwest has already caused economic chaos.

The unions have begun targetting the foreign oil giants operating in Nigeria in a bid to hit the country's main export income. Anglo-Dutch Shell last week said it could no longer sustain normal production.

Previous meetings here between the unions and the government have ended in deadlock. The junta has vowed not to hand over to Abiola, who was arrested in June after he declared himself president, a year after he was believed to have won elections subsequently annulled by the military.

Owodunni said that he has just returned from a tour of parts of the country where he campaigned for the continuation of the strike, now in its sixth week. He said that a local union official who had tried to call off the strike at the Warri refinery had been dismissed by colleagues, while workers at Kaduna, the only refinery, in the north, had joined the strike on Wednesday.

Owodunni warned the government against outlawing his union. "If that is done, it would be the end because government will have nobody again to dialogue with."

"We will go underground and use the local people in the oil communities against them," he threatened.

In another development, Nigerian writer and human rights activist Wole Soyinka has asked a federal court in Lagos to declare the regime of General Sani Abacha illegal, press reports said Thursday.

Soyinka's suit challenged the "self-proclaimed appointment" of Abacha, who seized power in November. The court has fixed the hearing for 10 October, the same date

as for the hearing of a similar suit also filed this week by six leading human rights groups, the reports said.

Abiola, a Moslem business tycoon, has widespread support in Lagos and among his Yoruba ethnic group in the southwest of the party, but not from the largely conservative, Islamic north, which has furnished the dominant element in the Army.

Meeting Begins

AB1108161394 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1500 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] The meeting between representatives of the Federal Government and the two striking unions in the petroleum industry began this afternoon in Lagos. The minister of labor and productivity, Dr. Samuel Ogbemudia, is leading the Federal Government team to the meeting. NUPENG [National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers] is being represented by a four-man delegation led by its deputy general secretary, Joseph Akinlola. PENGASSAN [Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria] has a five-man delegation led by one of its national officers, Akwebu Okoje.

Meeting Rescheduled

AB1108214594 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 11 Aug 94

[Text] The scheduled meeting between the executive members of the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers, NUPENG, and labor and productivity minister, Dr. Samuel Ogbemudia, did not hold today after all. The minister, who invited the leaders of the unions, objected to the level of representation. Correspondent Obiochina Oba reports that PENGASSAN [Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria], scheduled to meet government tomorrow, sent a five-man delegation today, led by an industrial relations officer, while NUPENG had a seven-member delegation, led by the deputy general secretary. NUPENG officials said their general secretary, Chief Frank Kokori, could not attend because he and some other senior officials were holding another meeting elsewhere. Dr. Ogbemudia, who had declared support for dialogue, said that government is aware of NUPENG's plans to violently shut down refineries and incite oil-producing communities against government. NUPENG, he said, also plans to get other unions to join the strike and seek the assistance of the international community to justify their action.

[Begin Ogbemudia recording] First and foremost, it is for us to discuss and see where we can hold a meeting and resolve the issues through dialogue because [words indistinct] (?has never) given birth to a healthy baby. [end recording]

The meeting was rescheduled to convene before Monday next week [15 August], when the two unions work out a

convenient date and time. The minister later spoke with pressmen on the outcome of his negotiations with the Nigerian Labor Congress [NLC].

[Begin Ogbemudia recording] All political problems were referred to the appropriate authorities, but I am aware that the government decided not to oppose bail for Chief Abiola, and I read in the newspaper that he has rejected the conditions set out by the authorities. I therefore made contact with NLC for them to come and let us look at the problem once again. [end recording]

Dr. Ogbemudia described the NUPENG strike as illegal. He was particularly unhappy that NUPENG failed to appear before the industrial arbitration panel when the dispute was referred to it. He, however, maintained that he is optimistic that the matter will be resolved through dialogue.

Government Warned of Planned Violence

AB1208201594 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Excerpts] The meeting between representatives of the Federal Government and the two striking unions of the petroleum industry has been rescheduled for Wednesday next week [17 August] in Lagos. [passage omitted]

Dr. Ogbemudia [labor and productivity minister] said that the government had been alerted of plans by NUPENG [National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers] to disrupt the operations of the oil industry following speculations that government will proscribe the union.

[Begin Ogbemudia recording] The attention of the Ministry of Labor and Productivity has been drawn to a statement by NUPENG in which it made attempts to preempt and prejudice government's reaction if negotiations fail. In the release, NUPENG speculated that government may proscribe it and then threatened to:

- A. Go underground and become violent.
- B. Attack oil locations and installations.
- C. Incite oil-producing communities against government.
- D. Violently shut down oil refineries.
- E. Get sister unions and [word indistinct] to join the national strike.
- F. Get international community to support them, etc.

These are all dangerous speculations which a negotiator with good intentions should avoid. Be that as it may, it is gratifying to note the extent unionists can go to pursue narrow interests. It does not matter to it [NUPENG] what damage they can cause. To be forewarned is to be forearmed. Government has taken the hint. The statement, which has been signed by NUPENG President

Chief Wariebi Agamene and General Secretary Frank Ovie Kokori, has been passed on to the appropriate quarters for evaluation.

Government Closes Down GUARDIAN Press Group

AB1508090794 Paris AFP in English 0856 GMT 15 Aug 94

[Text] Lagos, Aug 15 (AFP)—Police closed down the influential GUARDIAN press group overnight, a spokesman for the group told AFP Monday [15 August].

Six police stormed the group's headquarters on Apapa Oshodi Expressway, north Lagos, and ordered all staff out of the building, external relations manager Olatunji Dare said.

The group publishes THE GUARDIAN, one of Nigeria's most influential newspapers.

The police moved as a strike by oil workers, which started 4 July, has almost completely paralysed business activities in Nigeria, especially in Lagos, the nation's economic capital.

The strike was called to press demands for the government to release and drop treason charges against Moshood Abiola who has been detained since 23 June, 12 days after he proclaimed himself president of the country.

Abiola is widely believed to have won presidential elections held in June last year and annulled by the military regime of General Ibrahim Babangida for alleged irregularities.

Imam Warns Against U.S. 'Destabilization' Campaign

AB1208215794 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 1700 GMT 12 Aug 94

[Text] Nigerians have been advised to resist attempts by foreign detractors to destabilize the country. The chief imam of NNPC [Nigerian National Petroleum Company] Mosque Kaduna, Shaykh Usman Abubakar Babantule, gave the advice today in a special Friday (kutuba) [Muslim Friday prayers] on the situation in the country.

Shaykh Usman Abubakar condemned the increasing design by America to strangle Nigeria through her agents in the so-called pro-democracy movements. He advised the citizens not to succumb to the campaign of destabilization, pointing out that America had no business in the country's internal affairs since Nigerians were capable of solving their problems.

The imam condemned pro-democracy groups for allowing themselves to be teleguided by imperialists and warned that this [words indistinct] will be the first casualty in the event of a disaster. He also criticized the politicization of labor unions and urged the Federal Government to be decisive and forceful where matters of law and order were at stake.

Lagos State NLC Chapter Suspends Industrial Action

AB1408144094 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 13 Aug 94

[Text] The Lagos State chapter of the Nigerian Labor Congress [NLC] has suspended its four-week-old strike action. The state chairman of the chapter, Comrade Ayodele Elehor, who announced this in Lagos today, asked all workers in the public and private sector to resume work with effect from Monday the 15th. NTA Ikeja correspondent, Sam Akindele, has the details:

[Begin recording] [Akindele] Comrade Elehor announced the suspension of the strike action at a meeting of the state executive committee held at [the] national headquarters of the NLC, Tajiosho, Surulere. He said the decision to suspend the strike action was taken following an agreement reached yesterday between his chapter and the Lagos State Government.

Comrade Elehor, who disclosed that agreements were reached on all the three political and seven industrial demands, said the agreement was signed by four government officials including the state commissioner for works, Mr. Funshor Williams, and three trade union leaders. The agreement included the payment of 35 naira transport allowance per day to all workers who report for duty, the setting up of a [word indistinct] distribution monitoring committee by the Lagos State Government, and the increase of fleet of staff buses being run by the state government, as well as the fixing of the latest time of coming to work at 0930 during the fuel problem period.

Mr. Elehor, who said that the state government and union leaders also agreed to advise public corporations, authorities, boards, institutions, and local governments to introduce staff buses systems, gave no details of the agreement:

[Elehor] [passage indistinct] will follow suit.

4. That government will collaborate with banks and financial institutions to step up security severally and collectively in the state;

5. That there will be no victimization of staff in the Lagos public service as a result of the strike action and that the private sector is advised to follow suit;

6. That on resumption of duty, workers will redouble their efforts, especially in the area of revenue generation, to enable the state government meet its financial obligations.

[Akindele] The military administrator Colonel Olagbunsoye Oyindola, had made series of appeals to the striking workers in the state to go back to work, pointing out that their demands, which have political implications, were beyond his government's powers. [end recording]

NLC Leader Optimistic About Abiola's Release

AB1408210094 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 14 Aug 94

[Excerpts] The National Union of Banks, Insurance and Financial Institutions Employees, NUBIFIE, has confirmed

that its members will resume full-scale operation in various banks tomorrow. The president of the association, Mr. John Debanson stated on an NTA program in Lagos today that adequate arrangements have been made with the Central Bank to provide enough cash to banks to meet tomorrow's anticipated rush by depositors. [passage omitted].

On the same program, the president of the Nigerian Labor Congress [NLC], Comrade Pascal Bafyau, expressed optimism that Chief Moshood Abiola will be released on Tuesday [16 August]. He said that the much expected release will enable the NLC, the Federal Government, and Chief Abiola to dialogue on the political crisis in the country.

[Begin Bafyau recording] We are confident, as a labor movement, that those of us that went in for these negotiations have been able to reach an understanding that one bail option should be granted to Chief M.K.O. Abiola. Although the bail option did not come as we thought it could have come, but at least it came. [sentence as heard]

2. We agreed on that meeting of the 4th [August] that Chief M.K.O would be released through nolle prosequi and on the 16th.... [pauses] We do hope that that nolle [prosequi] will also be filed on the 16th in order to have Chief M.K.O released. But also, most importantly, I think the point has to be made because in the labor movement we knew, and we also.... [pauses] Every Nigerian knows that what has led to the detention of Chief M.K.O and the current trial that is going on is as a result of 12 June, and that is why in the meeting which we had with the chief of general staff and the service chiefs, if you see, one of the clauses on which we agreed is that when Chief M.K.O is released, the Federal Government, labor, and Chief M.K.O. will now sit down and discuss how this problem can be resolved in order that there can be peace and stability in our country. [end recording]

Togo

Cabinet Approves Bills on Budget, Opposition Status

AB1208090094 Lome Radio Lome in French 1900
GMT 10 Aug 94

[Communique issued by the Togolese Government cabinet on its meeting in Lome on 10 August; read by Communications Minister Atsutse Agbobli]

[Excerpts] The cabinet met today at the Presidential Palace, under the chairmanship of President Gnassingbe Eyadema. The meeting focused on the four draft bills on the agenda. The first draft bill, concerning the 1994 budget, was approved. The 1994 budget, with total earnings and expenditures of 121.116 billion CFA

francs, and an estimated deficit of 4.100 billion CFA francs, was approved. The second draft bill on the 1994 public investment program was also approved. The program's earnings and expenditures balanced out at 22.705 billion CFA francs. The third draft bill, regarding the opposition's status, was adopted. It outlines the opposition's rights and obligations, in accordance with the Constitution and the 12 April 1991 Political Parties' Charter. The fourth draft bill, on regulations governing prefectural personnel, was examined for the first time. The three draft bills approved by the cabinet will be submitted to the National Assembly for consideration.

Issued by the cabinet in Lome on 10 August.

[Announcer] [passage omitted] When the government presented its policy to the National Assembly on 24 June, the prime minister insisted on the government's priority of conferring legal status on the Republican opposition, to enable it to operate legally so that it could play its full constitutional role. Less than two months later, the draft bill on opposition status has been approved by the government. According to this draft bill, the opposition refers to political parties which have been formed legally, but which are not part of the government or do not support government actions. The opposition may be parliamentary or extra-parliamentary. The parliamentary opposition includes all parliamentarians who do not support the government, while the extra-parliamentary opposition refers to opposition political parties who have no representatives at the National Assembly. The opposition leader will be the leader of any opposition party which has a majority of opposition representatives at the National Assembly, or the leader of an opposition political party who is appointed leader by the other parties in the absence of a parliamentary opposition. The opposition has rights and obligations.

The following are the opposition's rights: The opposition leader has an official place within state protocol. He is consulted by the government on major issues which require a national consensus. These consultations may be extended to include other opposition party leaders. The state ensures the protection of opposition leaders. It also ensures the protection of their property and the security of their party headquarters. The opposition parties have access to official organs of information, and are free to hold peaceful public meetings and demonstrations.

Finally, here are the opposition's obligations: Opposition parties should promote tolerance and dialogue among themselves, as well as in their relations with citizens and the authorities. They should refrain from resorting to or inciting people to violence and hatred. They should also do away with all forms of tribalism, ethnocentrism, regionalism, racism, xenophobia, and religious intolerance.

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